

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4220

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1934

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, ECOSOC, UN

SUBJ: SPECIAL AD HOC COMMITTEE OF 36 - SPECIAL MEASURES
FOR MSA'S

1. IN CONVERSATION BETWEEN AMB FERGUSON AND KITTANI (EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO SYG), KITTANI RAISED QUESTION OF WHY US HAD EXPRESSED NEGATIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD PREBISCH. FERGUSON REPLIED THAT MATTER WENT BACK TO PREBISCH'S DAYS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THERE WERE ELEMENTS IN USG THAT TOOK GRAVE EXCEPTION TO WHAT WE THEN PERCEIVED AS EXTREME LEFTIST ORIENTATION. FERGUSON REMINDED KITTANI THAT US HAD INDEED WITHDRAWN OBJECTION TO PREBISCH IN TEL CON BETWEEN AMB SCALI AND SYG.

2. FERGUSON POINTED OUT THAT US HAD NOT EVEN BEEN AFFORDED A COURTESY CONSULTATION REGARDING PREBISCH'S APPOINTMENT. KITTANI REPLIED THAT SYG HAD CONSULTED MCNAMARA AND THAT MCNAMARA WAS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT PREBISCH'S APPOINTMENT. FERGUSON REPLIED THAT MCNAMARA DOES NOT SPEAK FOR THE USG AND THAT WE WOULD EXPECT CONSULTATIONS TO BE CONDUCTED WITH OUR PERM REP OR ONE OF OUR AMBASSADORS DESIGNATED FOR SUCH PURPOSE. FERGUSON ALSO POINTED OUT THAT WE AWARE PREBISHC ABOUT TO UNDERTAKE A WORLD TOUR STARTING IN VENEZUELA AND INCLUDING FRG, ALGERIA, EGYPT AND IRAN; AND THAT PREBISCH, WHILE HE HAS
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SEEN MCNAMARA AND AMB MARTIN IN WASHINGTON ON A

PERSONAL BASIS, HAD NOT REQUESTED AN OFFICIAL APPOINTMENT TO SEE ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM OR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOREY.

3. ON OTHER MATTERS KITTANI INDICATED THAT A FORMULA FOR SELECTING LIST OF MSA'S IS DUE TO BE PRESENTED TO SYG ON FRIDAY. KITTANI INDICATES THAT PREBISCH IS WORKING WITH BANK ADVISERS IN CONSTRUCTING THE FORMULA WHICH WILL THEN PRODUCE A LIST OF COUNTRIES.

4. IN REGARD TO THE AD HOC COMMITTEE OF 36, KITTANI INDICATES THAT THE AFRICANS HAVE NOW RE-RAISED THEIR DEMAND FOR MORE SEATS ON THE COMMITTEE. THE ASIANS, PARTICULARLY AMB AKHUND, ARE TRYING TO CONVINCE THE AFRICANS THAT ENOUGH SEATS HAVE TO BE LEFT FOR DONORS IF THE FUND IS EVER TO GET OFF THE GROUND. IN THIS CONNECTION FERGUSON POINTED OUT THAT WHILE WE ARE AWARE THAT BENITES IS CONDUCTING CONSULTATIONS WITH REGIONAL GROUPS, THE US NOT BEING MEMBER OF A REGIONAL GROUP WOULD NONETHELESS EXPECT APPROPRIATE CONSULTATIONS IN THIS PRELIMINARY PROCESS.

5. COMMENT: CONVERSATION WAS IN FRIENDLY MODE ALTHOUGH POINTS EXPRESSED BY BOTH KITTANI AND FERGUSON HAD UNUSUAL SHARPNESS. AMONG OUTCOMES WOULD ANTICIPATE PREBISCH WILL REQUEST APPOINTMENT ON OFFICIAL LEVEL IN WASHINGTON.
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